

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Patent Application of )  
Takanobu KAMURA et al. )  
Japanese Priority Application Nos. 2003-008581 )  
and 2003-029513 ) Attn: Applications  
Japanese Priority Dates: 01/16/2003 & 02/06/2003 ) Branch  
For: FLOOR PANEL STRUCTURE OF )  
VEHICLE BODY ) Date: January 14, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

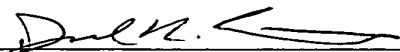
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | Patent Number            | New Application        |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date              | January 14, 2004       |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Takanobu KAMURA et al. |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit                 |                        |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name            |                        |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 741440-57              |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS             |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document                       | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                   |                          | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS          |                          |  |                                |  |  |                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup> | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures<br>Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                                   |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |  |  |                |
|                                   |                          | 09-202269  | 08/05/1997                     | Hida et al.  |  | Abstract       |
|                                   |                          |  |                                |  |  |                |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials <sup>1</sup>                 | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.